

# Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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## Barna bringing seminar to Mississippi

JACKSON, MS (Special and local reports) — George Barna, well-known Christian researcher, lecturer, and author from Ventura, Ca., will return to Mississippi to bring his Leading Your Church Forward: The 2003 Barna Seminar, to Ridgcrest Church in Madison on October 23.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is co-sponsoring the 2003 seminar, through gifts made to the Mississippi Cooperative Program. The 2003 seminar by Barna, who first came to Mississippi in 2001, will be divided into four sessions:

- Emerging Trends Affecting Your Church.
- Intentional Development of a Biblical Worldview.
- Deft Handling of Common Leadership Challenges.
- Turning Children into Spiritual Champions.

In a nationwide survey of adults conducted in February, the Barna Research Group discovered that two out of every three Americans (66%) believe that religion is losing influence in our society. However, the researcher who conducted the survey says that although that attitude has been in place for nearly a decade, with the exception of a few months directly following the September 11 terrorist attacks, the trend is reversible.

Drawing on a wealth of research conducted during the past two years in preparation for a seminar on church health and development, George Barna concluded during the development of his 2003 seminar that if churches and Christians become more serious about and committed to directed spiritual growth, people's doubts about the value and influence of faith will diminish.

Specifically, Barna believes churches and the Christian faith are perceived to have little influence in America because there is limited evidence that people's lives are any different as a result of their faith. Altering that perception, he argues, will take more than simply increasing attendance at church services or programs.

His recommendation for churches revolves around a three-part strategy: facilitating the development of a worldview that reflects biblical principles, reshaping the nature of ministry to children, and following capable, vision-driven leaders who are sensitive to the surrounding culture and respond to cultural opportunities without pandering to people's desires for simple solutions and quick spiritual fixes.

According to the statistics from Barna's research, more than nine out of ten born-again Christians do not have a worldview that is based on biblical principles and truths. Interviews among several thousand adults and nearly one thousand teenagers revealed that most people base their moral choices and behavior on feelings, experiences and assumptions that are not associated with biblical teaching.

During the seminar at Ridgcrest Church, Barna will describe the various non-Christian worldviews that are common - even among born again Christians - and how those affect day-to-day life.

of churches that foster this kind of lifestyle and then found what a difference this approach to life makes. It's huge, but it takes more than just preaching biblically-solid sermons and offering a bunch of Bible-based Sunday School classes or small groups."

The 2003 seminar is open to all individuals interested in discovering how to be more effective in ministry. The cost ranges from \$60 to \$105 per person, depending on how far in advance an individual registers and whether they qualify for a group rate. No meals, childcare, or overnight accommodations are included.

Registrations can only be taken at the Barna web site, toll-free telephone number, or fax number listed below, and not at the offices of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. To receive discounted rates, participants must register at least three weeks prior to the seminar and mention the co-sponsor's name when registering. The deadline for discounted rates for the Mississippi seminar is October 2, and the co-sponsor is the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

All those who attend will receive a workbook with

detailed outlines for each session. Additional resources related to the seminar topics will be available at discounted rates at the seminar. Several of those resources, including two new books by Barna, as well as videotapes and audio tapes of the seminar sessions, will be available only at the seminars, until the books are made available to the general public after the conclusion of the entire tour.

Barna has written more than 30 books regarding faith, culture, and leadership. Among his best-known books are *The Frog in the Kettle*; *The Power of Vision*; *User Friendly Churches*; *The Second Coming of the Church*; and one of his most recent volumes, *A Fish Out of Water: Nine Strategies to Maximize Your God-Given Leadership Potential*.

For more information on the Mississippi seminar and the remaining markets in which the seminar will be presented, check the Barna web site at , or call toll-free (800) 55-BARNA. Fax: (805) 658-7298. Local information may be obtained by contacting Sandy Bell at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Telephone: (601) 292-3310 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 310. E-mail: sbell@mbcb.org.

Join **GEORGE BARNA**  
for his new seminar...  
**Leading Your Church Forward**  
GEORGE BARNA 2003 SEMINAR  
OCTOBER 23 • Ridgcrest Church, Madison

Gleaning insights from churches and discipleship experts, Barna will also outline what a church may do to help people develop a worldview that is based upon and driven by scriptural truths. He indicates that while the practice he describes is not easy — "it takes a serious commitment of time and mental energy" — the long-term benefits are substantial and undeniable.

In fact, during the seminar he lists a series of belief and behavioral distinctions between those who do and those who do not possess a Bible-based worldview.

From the standpoint of cultural impact, Barna believes that this process is crucial. "There is a lot of talk in churches these days about worldview development, but we found surprisingly little evidence that churches have a well-conceived and carefully executed and evaluated strategy for helping people grasp God's view of reality.

"This is so critical because what you think determines what you do. Christianity is not having anywhere near the impact in our society that it could if those who are its adherents were to practice the fundamental principles of the faith on a 24-7 basis. We found examples

### WHAT'S IN THE RECORD

Directions

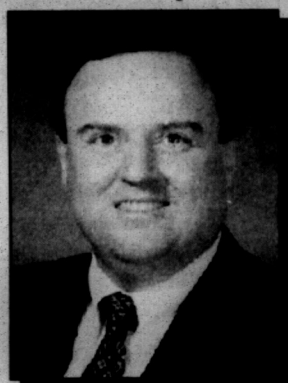
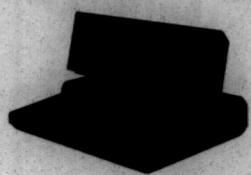
Just for the Record

Sunday School lessons

Baptist Children's Village



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# A target on their backs

The time has long passed when a person could intelligently argue that alcohol advertising and marketing in the U.S. is not really aimed at young people. With the exception of well-paid toadies beholden to the alcohol industry, virtually no one would today try to explain away television commercials featuring the Budweiser frogs, cute dogs, and beach volleyball games played by nubile youngsters as anything but a naked attempt to draw the underage populace to their product.

However, if common sense isn't enough to convince the hardcore alcohol apologists, the American Journal of Preventative Medicine is printing in its October issue a study by researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health's College Alcohol Study that slams the door on their facile arguments.

"Alcohol specials, promotions, and advertisements were prevalent in the alcohol outlets around college campuses. Almost three-quarters of on-premise establishments offered specials on weekends, and almost one-half of the on-premise establishments and more than 60% of off-premise establishments provided at least one type of beer promotion. The availability of large volumes of alcohol..., low sale prices, and frequent promotions and advertisements at both on- and off-premises establishments were associated with higher binge drinking rates on the college campuses," said the authors of the study.

Strange. Except for 21-year-old seniors, virtually every other college student on any campus is underage as the law applies to alcohol use. Could it be that the purveyors of alcohol are attempting to reach only the relatively small number of 21-year-olds on any given campus? Not likely. Their goal is to

introduce alcohol to young people at as early an age as possible — the better to normalize alcohol use and establish lifetime drinking habits.

There simply isn't a better time to introduce kids to alcohol than in the early years of their college experience, when so many of them are still so immature and almost all of them are far away from parental and church influences for the first time in their lives.

What happens when young college students take advantage of the alcohol specials? Approximately 20% become binge drinkers who quickly consume at least 4-5 drinks at a time, according to the study. Most of them probably consume much more than the 4-5 drink standard for the study, however.

What happens to these young binge drinkers? "Binge drinking has been associated with problems such as property damage, physical injuries, unwanted sexual advances, and encounters with police. In addition, binge drinking is associated with secondhand effects such as interruption of study or sleep, having to babysit a drunken student, or being the victims of physical and sexual assault.

"With regard to any type of alcohol consumption, it is estimated that 1,400 college students die each year from alcohol-related injuries," the study reports.

Here's the reality: In order to hook as many kids as possible as early as possible, the alcohol industry is willing to sacrifice 1,400 young people each year — and that's not counting the students who receive non-fatal but life-changing injuries, or who



contract incurable diseases, or who ultimately throw away a college education and a shot at a productive life.

It's just the price of doing business, all in a day's work for the alcohol pushers — and to them worth every drop of blood and every mother's tear that is shed.

Young people have a target on their backs, placed there by the manufacturers of alcohol and the business people and politicians who defend and support the industry. Sadly, some of those defenders and supporters in Mississippi are Baptist — at least in name.

A sage once pointed out that the purest definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over, all the while expecting a different result. As the bodies of our young people pile up, we continue to tolerate alcohol in our midst and hope for a different result.

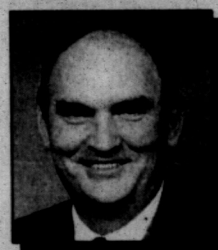
Indeed, we are an insane people.

## GUEST OPINION:

### Misery and mirages

By Ken West

Associational Missions Director  
Washington Association, Greenville



Anti-gambling Sunday will be observed across the Southern Baptist Convention on September 21.

As a pastor and associational missions director, I have counseled:

- a bank vice-president who grieved over having to foreclose on the house and property of lifelong friends.
- a husband whose wife of nearly forty years had almost destroyed the family business because of compulsive gambling.
- a woman whose sister gambled away her grocery money and couldn't feed her children.
- an employer who lamented the termination of a once-valued employee because the employee's addiction had made him undependable and dangerous to work near.
- a man whose gambling habit had cost him his family.

The common denominator in these situations was gambling. Proponents of gambling told of its benefits — more jobs, additional revenue without raising taxes, money for education, a stronger economy. If gambling is supposed to be so helpful, why does it cause so much hurt? The truth is gambling isn't helpful. By its very nature, it is harmful.

Gambling was sold to the public on the premise that it would help the economy. This

has not been the case. It was said that gambling would put additional revenue in state and local treasuries. No additional revenue has been produced.

Local governments must spend between three and seven dollars for every one dollar in gambling revenue collected to deal with the problems caused by gambling. The state of Mississippi is struggling with a budget deficit, as are several states that instituted gambling as a means of revenue. Even Nevada has a huge budget deficit!

Revenue from gambling is not additional revenue; it is transferred revenue.

Money that should be used for the purchase of clothes and groceries, making house payments and car notes, and paying utilities is being gambled away. Sales tax and other traditional sources of state and local revenue are reduced. Revenue enters the state and local government treasuries as gambling

revenue. This makes the gambling industry look good.

States that depend on casinos and other gambling outlets for revenue allow more gambling to make up the revenue deficit. Since 1991, gambling has had an annual growth rate of about nine percent nationally. This growth rate is much faster than the economy as a whole. (WORLD, 5/31/03). This is a recipe for disaster.

Gambling has proven to be just as disastrous to society in general. Gambling has given rise to an ever-increasing number of bankruptcies. Statistics gathered by John Kindt of the University of Illinois state that when gambling is present bankruptcies increase by 18% - 42%. According to information from the Mississippi Council on Problem and Compulsive Gambling, before the appearance of casinos in Mississippi there was one Gamblers Anonymous group in the state. Today there are 21 groups in

Mississippi, one in Arkansas near the Mississippi River and four in Memphis.

Crimes of all types have increased. This especially includes embezzlement, theft, robbery, and burglary. Gambling certainly has not benefited society as a whole.

Perhaps the most devastating effect of gambling is on the family. Families are being destabilized by the effects of gambling. Statistics from the executive director of the Compulsive Gambling Center show that between 5 - 11% of teens exposed to gambling will become compulsive gamblers. Thirty percent of high school students surveyed admitted to gambling at least occasionally.

There is a connection between problem gambling and divorce. In Harrison County (home to 10 casinos), the number of divorces has nearly tripled since the introduction of casinos. Additionally, child abuse and neglect and spousal abuse are not uncommon occurrences. The National Gambling Impact Study Commission reports that the children of compulsive gamblers often are subject to abuse and neglect.

The arrival of gambling has produced a maelstrom wreaking havoc in every part of society. Gambling has not benefited society; instead, it has produced misery and mirages.



# Supplies put to good use during Iraq delay

AL HASHMI ASHMALI, Jordan (BP) — Their children don't go to school, they have no access to healthcare, and their husbands wander from country to country looking for work and a way to gain permanent resident status for their families.

They are the wives of an estimated 500,000 Iraqi refugees who have fled the unstable country in the past six to seven years. Many are barely surviving; most have clung to what one Baptist worker calls an unrealistic "pipe dream" that the nightmare will end and the dream of a better life will begin.

"They live lives on hold," the worker said. "They live lives interrupted. They are always waiting for life somewhere else. This waiting makes helping particularly difficult for those who know of their pain and their need."

"They need help," the worker said. "The women need someone to work with them, someone to teach them to write and to sew, someone who will listen to their concerns."

A group of women from a team of Baptist relief workers who were diverted Sept. 2 from Iraq to Jordan were able to get just a taste of just how great the needs are. They accepted an invitation Sept. 7 to participate in a distribution project at the Islamic Women's Center at Al Hashmi Ashmali, one of the poorest neighborhoods in Jordan.

The relief workers helped distribute diapers, baby formula,

la, bottles, baby food, and clothes to more than 200 women and children. One of the workers also brought candy

immediately to assure the women that their own image was not photographed.

The coordinator of the group

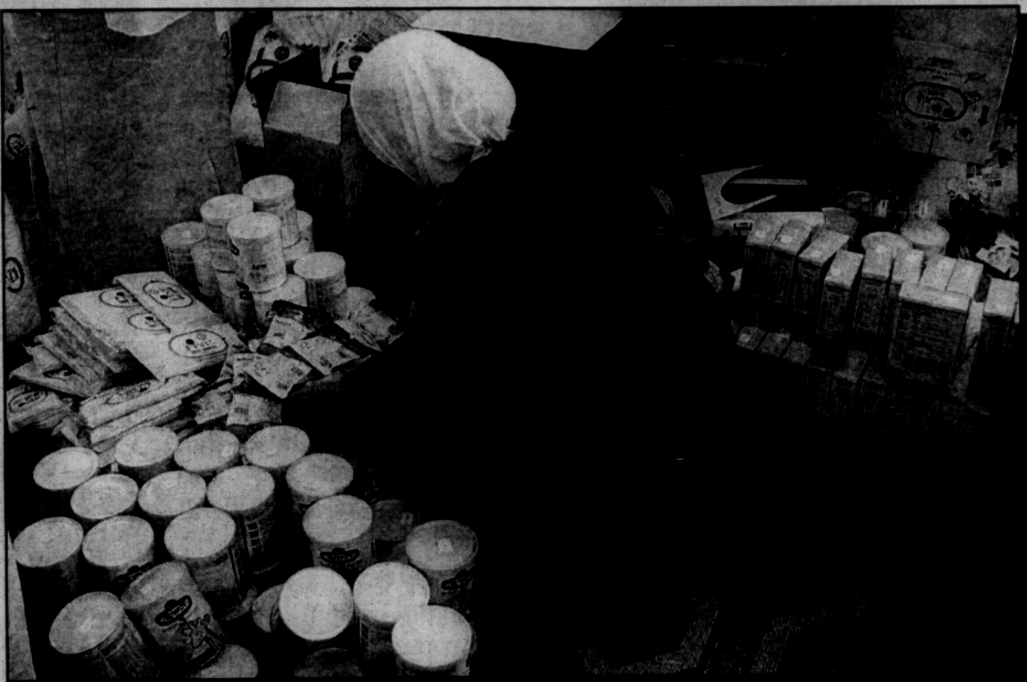
America who loved them and wanted to help, she felt she needed to tell some of the women more directly why she went to the center.

"If we are to be obedient to God, He says we are to love you," the relief worker said she told the Muslim women. "God says bring these things to the Muslims."

The coordinator of the effort described the relief workers' willingness to travel to the neighborhood to offer help as a "foreign concept" to the Muslim women.

"To come from America to bring the women simple things is odd to them," she said. "We don't know how God will use this to speak to people."

One of the workers said she believes their interaction with the Muslim women was a chance to demonstrate Christian love, quoting in part from a Bible verse, "You will show



**SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED** — Over 200 Iraqi, Jordanian, Syrian, and gypsy women and children were given diapers, baby formula, infant clothes, and other necessities at the Islamic Women's Center in Al Hashmi Ashmali in Jordan by Baptist relief workers stalled in their bid to distribute the supplies in Iraq. (BP photo by Joni B. Hanigan)

to distribute to the older children playing outside the center.

Covered and shrouded Muslim women from Iraq, Jordan, Palestine and Syria crowded the locked doorway waiting for access to the supplies, while children as well as young adults played together in the courtyard and grabbed for candy.

The Muslim women smiled and chatted in Arabic at the relief workers, but unlike the residents of Jordan, the predominantly Iraqi group said they did not speak English for the most part. Most of the women preferred not to be photographed but instead held their babies up in their arms for instant digital pictures that were shown back to them

had previously told the workers that the women at the center were mostly without the large extended families that typically would teach them how to care for children, sew and cook. She said many of the women and their children were vastly undernourished; they have no stoves or refrigerators and survive on a daily diet of pita bread, tea and sugar. As a result they have "weak bones and awful teeth," she said.

The only representation of America — which they instantly link with Christianity — is the image of women on the television show Baywatch, the coordinator told the group.

"Everything you do to counter that is a witness," the worker said, referring to the relief workers' appearance and attitude. "Share who you are — a Christian."

At one point, one relief worker later told the Florida Baptist Witness, though she knew the Muslim women already had been told the gifts were from Christians in

them you belong to me if you love one another." "I think we did that," she said.

In one home, Daoud (not his real name) said his family of four fled Iraq in 1999 after he began to fear for their safety. He has a sister who lives in the United States and has been offered work there. A taxi driver by trade, Daoud said he cannot work in Jordan where a legitimate visa typically expires after three months. Instead, he relies on his sister's family to send him money for rent and food until he obtains a visa to be able to live and work near them in America.

Responding to questions by relief workers, Daoud said he is a Christian with an Assyrian church background. He asked for prayers for his two daughters, ages three and one.

A relief worker from Texas told him he believes Daoud is a "good father." "I am honored," Daoud told the worker through an interpreter. "You are my brother and because of that, my family is your family."



MISSISSIPPI  
**BAPTISTS**

**THE  
SECOND  
FRONT PAGE**

*Record*

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## LifeWay posts record

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — LifeWay Christian Resources reported to its trustees Sept. 9 that the company expects to post record 2003 revenues of almost \$421 million, \$6.3 million more than last year. LifeWay's fiscal year ends Sept. 30. "LifeWay has demonstrated good stability in a weak economy," chief operating officer Ted Warren told trustees during their semi-annual meeting at LifeWay Glorieta (N.M.) Conference Center. He credited the introduction of new books, Bibles and literature, sound operations and tight expense control for LifeWay's success during a time when the economy continued to be soft. Funds provided from operations — money for reinvestment in ministry expansion after all expenses are paid — are expected to be \$14 million, or 3.3% of revenue, consistent with LifeWay's goal of financial performance. In their Sept. 8-9 meeting, the trustees adopted a record 2004 operating budget of \$445.4 million, a 5.8% increase over projected 2003 revenues, along with capital expenditures of \$14.7 million. LifeWay's retail division turned in "solid performance in a tough economy" in 2003, reported vice president Mark Scott. Revenues for the fiscal year are projected to be slightly higher than last year's despite a tight economy, and the division managed expenses exceptionally well. "While running a tight ship during a tough economy, we've been laying the foundation for long-term growth," Scott said. The division completed 12 store projects in the last year, including new stores in Baton Rouge, La.; Beaumont, Texas; Albany, Ga.; and Bowling Green, Ky. The company also acquired two Moody Bible Institute bookstores and will convert them to LifeWay Christian Stores, bringing the total number of LifeWay book stores to 119 by Sept. 30. No new stores are planned for 2004 as LifeWay will focus on further improving existing operations, Scott said.

## Looking back

### 10 years ago

Publisher Simon and Schuster plans on releasing a condensed version of the Bible to provide easier reading and faster-moving action. The Old and New Testaments will have no genealogies and the book of Leviticus will be pared to two-and-a-half pages.

### 20 years ago

First Church, Oklahoma City, elects three women as deacons, setting up what is sure to be a confrontation between the 3,000 member congregation and the Capital Baptist Association.

### 50 years ago

Southern Baptist leaders from 22 states participate in the dedication of the new \$4 million campus of New Orleans Seminary in outlying Gentilly, near Lake Ponchartrain. The seminary, formerly located in the Garden District, was founded in 1918.





### YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following  
prayer with God in  
your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you.  
(I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my  
sins and freedom from eternal  
death.  
(I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose  
from the grave to forgive my  
sins and to restore my  
relationship with you.  
(I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ  
into my life. From this time  
on, I want to live in a loving  
relationship with him.  
(I receive Christ as my  
Savior and Lord.)

But as many as received him, to  
them he gave the right to become  
children of God, even to those  
who believe in his name  
(John 1:12).

If you make a decision for  
Jesus Christ today, contact  
a local Baptist church for  
spiritual guidance.

### THE "WEIGHT/WAIT" PROBLEM

America has a weight problem. We are a nation of people who weigh way too much! It doesn't take a ten million dollar, scientific study to reveal that for many of us our weight is out of control. For me personally, I've come to realize that I have inherited the finest of "fat" genes from both sides of my family. Then, to add to my problem, my DNA calls for shortness of stature and a slow metabolism. Weight has been, is, and I'm confident will continue to be a daily struggle for me!

Now, to make things even worse, the news reports that when people are overweight, generally their pets are overweight as well. We do have a weight problem; but, what I actually wanted to talk to you about for just a moment is an even greater "wait" problem.

All of us are plagued with the emotional push from within that says we should not have to wait for anything. Our desire that has actually become our demand says that you don't have to wait for anything in life. Immediate, instant gratification governs most of our lives. If I cannot have what I want, when I want it, then something is terribly wrong! Just watch us, wherever you might go, and you will see that we are not patient, waiting people. Watch us when we are checking



## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

out of the grocery store, having to stand in line. You would think that the store was on fire and that we were having to count the seconds until the ceiling fell in! Or, check us out on the highway. We will endanger four cars and eight people in order to get a five-yard advantage on the highway.

Or, if you want to see pure panic, watch some folks at a worship service when they think that it has gone too long. It seems clear that for some the object of worship is getting out at the time they deem appropriate. Or, when it comes to church, watch people dealing with some change that is needed in the fellowship and the appropriate people and committees are dealing with it, but the people want it done "yesterday!" So, instead of prayerfully and carefully dealing with the issue and allowing things to be done properly and in order, they would prefer to rip and tear and to slash and burn in order to have it done their way, right

now! We do not like to wait!

Now, actually I'm not talking about delay and foot-dragging because that's not helpful either - in fact, that can be tragic. What I am referring to is the kind of "wait" that the Bible points us to in Psalm 27:14, "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage and he shall strengthen thine heart. Wait, I say, on the Lord." I think that most of us are convinced that God moves way too slow and even when He moves, He probably is not capable of handling the situation that concerns us unless we step in and push and pull and expedite matters so that everything will come out correctly.

The Psalmist knew better and instructs us wisely. It is the last verse in Psalm 27 when he says, "You need to wait on the Lord." If you look back over this beautiful Psalm, it begins by saying, "The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?" If the Lord is our radiance and our rescuer, why not wait on Him to act? Then in verse two and three, He tells us

though the enemy encamps against us and stacks their powers around us, we can be confident and wait on the Lord. Though trouble be everywhere and even come from unknown secret places - we can wait on the Lord and even, according to verse six, have joy and sing praises.

God is able to deal with the needs in our lives, the pains of our hearts, and the enemies that would stand against us, if we would wait on Him. Yet, most of us have a "wait" problem and we are compelled to jump ahead of God. We take it into our own hands dealing with those people, or those burdens of issues, or those unsolvable problems, in a way that suits us and does not wait to honor God. In Psalm 27:11, the Psalmist says, "Teach me thy way, O Lord." And, His way is often faithful, confident waiting!

If you, my friend, are in that posture, waiting to see the hand of God at work, stay close to Him and keep trusting Him. Let your "wait" problem be turned into a moment of amazement and then pause and say, "Thank you God!"

*Editor's note: Due to a layout error, Directions did not appear in some editions of the September 11 issue of The Baptist Record. The September 11 column can be found at [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org). The Baptist Record regrets the error.*

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[www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org)

**PART-TIME YOUTH/CHILDREN'S Minister.** Send resume to Antioch Baptist Church, 2350 Hwy 43 S., Brandon, MS 39042. Attn: youth minister search committee.

**FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON,** is looking for a part-time associate minister to help meet the needs of this caring church with outreach programs and homebound ministry. For more information, contact Dr. Greg Wolfe, pastor, P.O. Box 13675, Jackson, MS 39236. Phone (601) 368-2983.

**ORGANIST, CASTLEWOODS Baptist Church.** Send a letter of interest or resume to 175 Stonecastle Drive, Brandon, MS 39047, via email or fax. Fax number (601) 992-2623. For information call (601) 992-9977.

**MOSELLE MEMORIAL BAPTIST Church** is currently seeking a part-time minister of youth. If you feel God leading you in the direction of youth ministry and would like a great opportunity to work with a growing church, please send your resume to: MMBC minister of youth committee, P.O. Box 220, Moselle, MS 39459 or call (601) 582-9428.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SHANNON,** is currently accepting resumes for the position of full-time pastor. Please send resumes to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 21, Shannon, MS 38868, attn: Danny Simmons.

**NORTHWEST BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IN** DeSoto and Tate counties is now taking applications and resumes for Association Missions Director. Send all information, including accurate references to Mr. Dan Freeman, 2604 Laven Road, Nesbit, MS 38651.

**FULL-TIME MINISTER OF STUDENTS** position. Send resumes to minister of students search committee, Grace Memorial Baptist Church, 2412 23rd Avenue, Gulfport, MS 39501.

**CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH IN** Meridian is looking for an organist. Interested persons should contact Dr. Chisholm by phone at (601) 693-4288 or email [danny@cbcmdn.org](mailto:danny@cbcmdn.org).

**UNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, MOSELLE,** Miss., is seeking a nursery worker for Sunday am/pm services. Also, for Wednesday pm services. If you are interested, please send a resume to Unity Baptist Church, attention: Nursery Committee, P.O. Box 156, Moselle, MS 39459 and/or call (601) 582-4025 or (601) 583-4798.

**WALNUT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH,** Leake County, seeks part-time music director. Please send resume and references to Rev. Kyle Cannon, pastor, P.O. Box 363, Walnut Grove, MS 39189 or call (601) 253-2391.

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**ATTENTION PASTORS, STAFF, EVENT** coordinators. "Celebrate The Family," worship and conferences featuring singer, speaker, musical ventriloquist, Lee Pitts Spooner. Banquets, conferences, and retreats. For free video call (251) 660-7628.

**SEBREN'S SIDING, JACKSON, MISS.** Christian owned home improvements, vinyl siding, windows, metal roofs, patio covers, screen/glass rooms. (601) 992-2092 or (800) 453-2994. Don & Rita Sebre, owners.

**HEIDELBURG STAINED GLASS,** Meridian. Design, fabrication, repair. Fax illustrations to (601) 483-7958 or call (800) 368-2705.

**FIRST BAPTIST, MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY,** is seeking full-time worship/music minister. Average attendance 500+. Blended worship style with Praise team. Position will give leadership to graded music program: 65 member praise choir team, and worship team,

worship planning. Send resume to Bob Swift, pastor, First Baptist Church, 118 W. South Street, Mayfield, KY 42066.

**GATLINBURG GETAWAY, TWO/BR, 2** bath, full kitchen. Walking distance to parkway. \$65/night. Call for information at (251) 666-2175.

**CHRIST-CENTERED CHILDREN'S** home with Presbyterian heritage in NE Mississippi providing long-term care for sibling groups; seeks couples to serve as houseparents. Commitment to Christ and to children essential. Liberal benefit package. Contact Dr. Bob Schwanebeck at Palmer Home for Children. (662) 328-5704, extension 113 or [bschwanebeck@palmerhome.org](mailto:bschwanebeck@palmerhome.org).

**LEESVILLE - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:** Full-time youth and recreation minister. Send resumes with photo to: Youth Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church of Leesville, P.O. Box 1568, 1400 Nolan Trace, Leesville, LA 71446; or email [fbcleesville@wnonline.net](mailto:fbcleesville@wnonline.net).

**AMERICA'S FASTEST GROWING** Christian long distance company. 4.9/minute, no monthly fees. No codes or restrictions, 6 second billing. 250,000 happy customers. Toll-free (866) 587-8346 or [www.covenant-phoneservice.com](http://www.covenant-phoneservice.com).

**HOPPER GLASS STUDIO, CUSTOM** church windows, reworking and repair, Columbus/Jackson, (877) 477-1899.

**CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY,** free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

**FOR SALE: 1992 FORD SPORT, 15** passenger van. New tires, white, 82,000 miles. \$4,000, call (479) 925-1566, Roger, Arkansas.

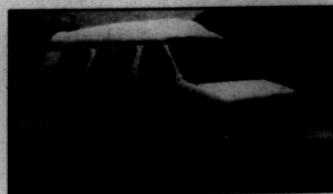
**WANTED: FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE** pastor of music and youth. All interested send resumes to: Feliciana Baptist Church, P.O. Box 428, Clinton, LA 70722. Or call the church office at (225) 683-3066 or pastor Tony Hand at (225) 938-4592.

**LITTLE GIANT MFG. CO.**  
BAPTISTRIES  
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### 15 - Passenger Van Safety is Big News these Days!

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- Mini-Bus • 15 passengers (No CDL)
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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

# HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

September 18, 2003

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.


MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST

## Missions Mobilization CELEBRATION

November 14-15, 2003

**Friday, November 14**  
**FBC, Jackson, 425 North State Street**

- Celebration Banquet - 6:30 p.m.
- Mobilization Displays
- Music/Testimonies
- Strategic Contributions of Volunteers**
  - Rick Hancock MD/DE**
  - Special Guest from East Asia**



**Rick Hancock**

**Saturday, November 15**  
**Baptist Building, 515 Mississippi Street**

- Continental Breakfast - 7:30 - 8:15 a.m.
- Devotional
- Cluster group meetings
  - Ukraine
  - North America
  - China

*You are invited to this exciting time of celebrating what God is doing through Mississippi volunteers. You will meet and hear the stories of many of these volunteers.*

Banquet Cost: \$10  
 Reservations required by November 11.  
 Call 601-292-3398 or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 398.



## Annual Missions Celebration Bus Tour

**October 3-4**

Departing from Camp Garaywa at 7 a.m. for the Annual Missions Celebration at Harrisburg BC, Tupelo

Registration form available at [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org), or call the Mississippi WMU at 1-800-748-1651, ext. 317 or 601-292-3317

**COST\***  
 Single: \$107  
 Double: \$70  
 Triple: \$62  
 Quad: \$54

\* Cost includes one night's lodging at the Hampton Inn, continental breakfast & bus transportation. Thursday night accommodations are available in the Camp Garaywa guest house for an additional \$14.

## AREA KEYBOARD FESTIVALS - 2004



<b>Thursday, January 29, 2004 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.</b>		<b>LEADER</b>	
Area 2	Harrisburg BC, Tupelo, 4675 Cliff Gookin Blvd. (All Categories)	Diane Smith	C-662-842-6917
Area 4	Fairview BC, Columbus, 127 Airline Rd. (All Categories)	Slater Murphy	C-662-328-2924
Area 5	FBC, Clinton, 100 E. College St. (Categories I, IA only)	Beverly Coleman	C-601-924-6716
Area 6	Highland BC, Meridian, 3400 27th St. (All Categories)	Bill Bacon	C-601-482-0191
	FBC, McComb, 1700 Delaware Ave. (All Categories)	June Williams	C-601-482-0191
Area 8	William Carey College, Hattiesburg, 489 Tuscan Ave. (All Categories)	Diann Greer	C-601-684-2971
Area 8	FBC, Laurel, 605 W. Fifth Street (All Categories)	Kathy Vail	H-601-264-7443
		Joy Hughlett	C-601-649-5710
		Jimmy Little	
<b>Friday, January 30, 2004 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.</b>			
Area 1	Hernando BC, Hernando, 11 E. Center St. (All Categories)	Barry Tweedy	C-662-421-6361
Area 5	Crossgates BC, Brandon, 8 Crosswoods Rd. (Categories II, IIA, III, IV only)	Tommy Creel	C601-825-2562
Area 9	FBC, Biloxi, 1560 Popps Ferry Road (All Categories)	Leon Bedsole	C-228-396-8500
<b>Saturday, January 31, 2004 - 9:30 a.m. - noon</b>			
Area 3	Emmanuel BC, Grenada, 245 Meadow Brook Rd. (All Categories)	Barry Worrell	C-662-226-5316
	North Greenwood BC, Greenwood, 615 Grand Blvd. (All Categories)	Patricia Ethridge	C-662-453-2801
Area 5	Alta Woods BC, Jackson, 168 Colonial Dr. (Categories II, IIA, III, IV only)	Wyndy South	H-601-957-3615

Start planning now to have the children and youth from your church and studio participate in the 2004 Area Keyboard Festivals. For more info, contact Wyndy South, Church Music Department, 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3272.



## GA Mother/Daughter Overnight

**October 17-18, 2003 • Camp Garaywa**  
 (for girls ages 5 to 105!)

**Cost: \$33 per person**  
 (includes meals, lodging, insurance and program fees)

The registration deadline is October 3, 2003. For info, contact the WMU Department at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-968-3800 in Jackson.



## Senior Adult Retreat IV

Sept. 30 - Oct. 2  
Gulfshore Baptist Assembly  
Tues. - Thurs.  
Cost: \$97 + lodging

Guest Speaker

**Bill  
Baker**



REGISTRATION	2 p.m.
1. Heaven's View Rm 15	John McCall Clinton
2. Journey with Jesus Rm 17	Jan Halford Jackson
3. Walking Daily with Jesus Rm 119	Ken Walters Picayune
4. Good Grief Rms 11 & 12	Brian Upshaw Gulfport
5. Coping with Depression Rms 13 & 14	James Haynes Biloxi
6. Humor is the Remedy Rm 119	Judy Marby Biloxi
WORKSHOP	
• Leadership	Glenn Shows MBCB
Morning Watch	Roger Alewine Gulfport
Planist	Irene Martin Harpersville
Choir	Briarwood Baptist Meridian
Special Guests	"Growing Up Down South" Jerry Mixon MBCB
ADJOURN	1:00 p.m.

- Seafood Banquet
- Ice Cream Fellowship
- Much More!

For more info,  
contact the Discipleship and  
Family Ministry Department  
at  
1-800-748-1651 or  
601-292-3283.



## Doctrine of Jesus

9 a.m. - noon Cost: \$10

## 2004 BAPTIST DOCTRINE STUDY

PRELIMINARY  
EDITED BY REX YANCY

### BRUNCH AND PRELIMINARY

January 19  
First Baptist Church, Biloxi  
January 20  
Alta Woods Baptist Church, Jackson  
January 22  
First Baptist Church, Starkville

## Program Personalities

MARY BROUSSARD  
SUZANNE BURTON  
HOPE FERGUSON  
SANDRA FITTS  
STEPHEN GATELEY  
EVA NELL HUNTER  
TIM NICHOLAS

### Other Program Personalities

JERRY SAGER  
IAN RICHARDSON  
RONNIE FALVEY  
BARBARA WESTERFIELD

### Special Leader

**Morlee Maynard**  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Author

For more info, contact  
Communication Services at  
1-800-748-1651  
or 601-292-3378 or E-mail  
jchen@mbcb.org

## MISSISSIPPI

**BAPTISTS**  
CHURCH LIBRARY MINISTRY

## 32nd Annual CHURCH LIBRARY MINISTRY CONFERENCE

October 3-4, 2003  
First Baptist Church  
Jackson, Miss.

## FAST ... EASY REGISTRATION ... 32ND ANNUAL STATE CLM CONFERENCE

First Baptist Church, Jackson - October 3-4, 2003

☐ Yes, I want to attend the 2003 Church Library Ministry Conference.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(List additional names and addresses on a separate sheet.)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (daytime) \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

I need \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s) for the Friday lunch. I need \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s) for the Friday dinner.

Cost per person - \$20. The registration fee includes lunch, dinner and registration packet. No refund for any meals not taken.

TOTAL (Number of persons x \$20) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS ... SEPTEMBER 25, 2003

Please attach a list of names for whom the reservations have been made. RESERVATIONS ARE NONREFUNDABLE AFTER September 25.

Make check payable to the MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD.

Mail to: COMMUNICATION SERVICES/CLM • PO Box 530 • Jackson MS 39205-0530



## Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer November 3, 2003

A time of prayer for Baptist women of all cultures, ethnic backgrounds and races. This year's program highlights several types of prayer and ways of praying as participants pray for needs around the world.

You may download the program material from the Web: [www.bwanet.org](http://www.bwanet.org), or you may contact Mississippi WMU for program materials at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3319.



## 2004 Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra

### Audition Information

1-800-748-1651, ext. 266, or  
[cwtaylor@mbcb.org](mailto:cwtaylor@mbcb.org)  
Web site: [www.mbcb.org](http://www.mbcb.org)

## auditions

Audition dates for the 2004 MBASYC&O  
(Open to 9th - 12th graders)

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2003	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	William Carey College, Hattiesburg
Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2003	4 - 7 p.m.	First Baptist Church, Summit
Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2003	4 - 8 p.m.	First Baptist Church, Meridian
Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2003	4 - 7 p.m.	First Baptist Church, Winona
Saturday, Oct. 25, 2003	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Mississippi College, Clinton
Thursday, Nov. 13, 2003	4 - 8 p.m.	Fairview BC, Columbus
Saturday, Nov. 15, 2003	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	North Oxford BC, Oxford

(NOTE: ALL instrumentalists will be expected to audition vocally.)

### Instrumental auditions will include:

- A prepared piece
- Scales
- Sight reading
- Technique and tune

## rehearsal camp

June 14-17, 2004  
William Carey  
College  
Hattiesburg

## tour

June 17-22, 2004  
Mississippi  
Churches

Be sure that your young people register with the Church Music Department two weeks before they plan to audition!!!

We need to know how many students are coming so that we can provide judges and accompanists.

Sponsored by the  
Church Music Department

# Challenge

A.E. WOOD COLISEUM  
MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE, CLINTON  
DECEMBER 29-30, 2003

Registration begins at noon  
First session starts at 2 p.m.  
Concludes Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

For more info,  
contact the Evangelism  
Department at  
292-3278 or  
1-800-748-1651

## One Voice in Concert

## Pastor Staff

### RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION

Recognition and affirmation are critically important to each of us. How easy it is to give appreciation, and how meaningful it is to be the recipient of affirmation. And yet, how often we take our spiritual leaders for granted and forget to say, "thank you."

Ministers deserve and need affirmation from the people they serve. Members of the congregation need a special occasion to say, "We love you and appreciate what you are doing as our spiritual leader." Pastor/Staff Recognition is designed to give the church an opportunity to say, "Thank you for your labor of love."

Contact the Pastor/Leadership Development for a brochure and assistance in ways to affirm your pastor and staff: 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3305.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2003

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, COLUMBUS

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (For directions call 662-328-3915)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2003

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NATCHEZ

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (For directions call 601-442-1464)

### Henry Lyons, Humorous Speaker

Former Alabama DT Director/Senior Adults  
Alabama Senior Adult Consultant

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch if registered by October 27)  
\$5 payable at the door (lunch will not be provided)

LifeWay Christian Store displays, goodie bags  
Antebellum Home tour after 2:30 p.m.

For more info, contact: Glenn Shows, 601-292-3373 or  
1-800-748-1651, MBCB Discipleship & Family Ministry Dept.



- Ministry/Prayer
- Children
- Music
- Youth
- Family
- Evangelism
- Discipleship
- Senior Adults
- Church Music
- Missions



Pray this day for...

September 19-October 2, 2003

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

"God, help us to know the Spirit and to revere Him as the Spirit of prayer!"

Andrew Murray

For: (1) Anti-Gambling Day - Statistics show increased crime, bankruptcies, broken families, and unhealthy political influences inevitably follow casino gambling. Pray that the voting public will elect politicians who will curtail this threat. The Christian community will have to lead the way in this struggle. (CAC Emphasis)

A volunteer team from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary opened several doors in schools, which had not been open before, during their last visit to Prague, Czech Republic. Pray for guidance for the Prague Mission Team in doing follow-up with those contacts and schools.

For: (1) Discipleship Rally (D&FM Emphasis); (2) Church Related Vocations Banquet, William Carey College, Hattiesburg, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (D&FM); (3) Pray for the continued ministry of students and their families through the teaching and activities at Haven of Peace Academy, Dar ES Salaam, Tanzania.

Pray for ISC workers Kevin and Lauren Tremper from Virginia. They will be going to Margarita Island, Venezuela, in September to work with the university students - the future professionals of Venezuela. Pray for their transition to Venezuelan life and language study.

For: (1) January Bible Study, FBC, Jackson, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (SS); (2) In Eastern Africa there is a potential opportunity to put the chronological Bible stories on a radio station that is owned by people of another major world religion. Pray that God would provide the translated stories and the resources to do this.

For: (1) IV Senior Adult Conference, Gulfshore, 30th - Oct. 2nd (D&FM); (2) Pray for 10.8 million Southern Pashtun living in southern Afghanistan and southwestern Pakistan to have an opportunity to hear, understand and believe the Good News about Jesus Christ.

The Rome, Italy, team asks us to pray that the many new believers there will agree to meet for prayer and fellowship. Since they come from a variety of countries and backgrounds, pray that language barriers will be broken and that worship will begin on a regular, consistent basis in order that this body of believers will be strengthened and the Father glorified.

Pray for the Food Box Distribution Project in September and October, where 46,000 food boxes will be distributed to the homes of Iraqi families in all parts of Iraq. Pray that as the volunteers visit in the homes of the Iraqi families, the Lord would call out disciples to follow Him.

Bill and Sylvia Kneisly are part of the church multiplication team of the Kansas-Nebraska Convention. Pray for the Christian truckers who stop by the chapel at US 75 and 1-35 for worship and fellowship, and that unaved truckers and truck stop employees will be reached for Jesus.

For: (1) Church Related Vocations Banquet, Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (P/LD); (2) Campers on Mission Rally, Central Hills, Kosciusko, 2nd - 5th; (3) Please pray today for Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker of Luxembourg (western Europe, between France and Germany).

For: (1) Volunteer Chaplains' Training, Baptist Building, Jackson, (CPD); (2) Missionary Parent Fellowship, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 19th-20th (WMU); (3) Pray for Brandon Waters, chaplain with the U.S. Penitentiary in Lee County, Jonesville, Va., as he shares the gospel and ministers to those who are incarcerated.

For: (1) State College Student Conference, TBA, 7 p.m., 26th - 3 p.m. 27th (CLGM); (2) Pray for a local, medical student, J., in Chengdu, China, who is leading several students in some discipleship materials. Pray that those whom he is leading will also have a vision of sharing the Good News with others.

For: (1) Mississippi Missionaries 20th (WMU); (2) Praise God with John & Kathy McNair, missionaries to Montevideo, Uruguay. John baptized two young men in the Barrio Menicua Church Aug. 31st. Pray for the salvation of the father of one of them who came to the baptism. He was very attentive during the service and visibly moved by the love of the people.

Missionary Pauline Eardensohn's sewing/Bible study classes have graduated their last group of students, and several women have now been joined to continue the ministry, teaching sewing and leading Bible studies. Pray for them as they continue to work on their own.

## Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kickoff Annual Missions Celebration



Betty Davis  
President  
Mississippi  
WMU

Betty Davis, president of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, presiding  
Worship Leaders: Becky Howard and Diane Smith

### THEME: LIGHT THE WAY

Scripture: Remember your leaders, who spoke the Word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Hebrews 13:7-8 NIV

#### Some highlights:

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 3

#### Worship Celebration 1 Remember Your Leaders

- 12:45 Prelude - Diane Smith and Becky Howard
- Special guest - Marjean Patterson
- Reflect on Prayer - Janet Hoffman
- Touch Tomorrow Today - David George
- Message - Lewis and Toni Myers, Last Frontier Missionaries
- Sessions
- 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Historical Maze
- Come Mingle with the Missionaries
- Come Mingle with the Parents of Missionaries
- Praying for Pastors - Dr. Kevin Meador
- Unveiled to Victory (Ministering to Muslims)

#### FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 3

#### Worship Celebration 2 Consider the Outcome

- 6:30 Prelude - Harrisburg Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra
- Missionary Parents Fellowship flag processional
- Message - Gloria and Tom Thurman, IMB emeritus
- Reception for all former Mississippi WMU staff and Mississippi WMU Board members in the church parlor and courtyard

#### SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 4

- 7:30 Breakfast for former WMU Executive Board members in the fellowship hall
- 8:45 Sessions (Repeat of previous sessions)
- Worship Celebration 3 Imitate Their Faith
- 10:00 Prelude - Diane Smith and Becky Howard
- Message - Kay Bennett, NAMB missionary
- Dramatic Prayer Closing - "Passing the Torch"

Kay Cassibry  
Your WMU  
Executive Director



Janet Hoffman  
President  
WMU, SBC

For more information,  
contact the  
Mississippi WMU at  
1-800-748-1651 or  
601-292-3319.

Harrisburg BC, Tupelo  
4675 Cliff Gookin Blvd.  
near West Main Street  
October 3-4, 2003

Child care will be provided by  
registration only. Call Kaye Horton at  
662-842-6917. Registration for child  
care closes Friday, September 26.

A reserved section for deaf interpreta-  
tion will be provided for the hearing  
impaired during the worship  
celebrations.

HOUSE TOPS



## JUST FOR THE RECORD



Jesus Thang Festival, Houlika

The Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission is hosting a seminar for pastors and staff, Preventing Clergy Sexual Misconduct in Your Church, on October 7 from 10 a.m.-noon followed by a complimentary buffet lunch at the Clarion Hotel, Jackson, next to Denny's off of High Street at 400 Greymont Avenue, (601) 696-2141. Joe Trull, former Ethics Professor at NOBTS and current editor of Christian Ethics Today, will be speaking. A copy of Trull's Broken Trust: Confronting Clergy Sexual Misconduct will be available free of charge to all participants. To register, contact (800) 748-1651 ext. 329 or 601-292-3329, or email rwood@mbcb.org.



Trull

Ronny Robinson, former executive director of the Baptist Children's Village, is available for pulpit supply, or interim pastorates. Robinson may be contacted at (601) 922-1113.



Robinson

Salem Heights Church, Laurel, will sponsor a women's conference on October 3 from 7-9 p.m. and October 4 beginning at 9 a.m. with a \$5 meal served at noon. Gaye Martin will be speaking. For reservations, call (601) 763-7571 by September 26.

Fernwood Church, Gulfport, will host a grief seminar, Coping With Grief, on September 19 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and 20 from 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It will be led by Jeanine Bozeman, NOBTS. Admission is free. For more information, call (228) 896-4556. Jim Kultau is pastor.

Cedar View Church, Olive Branch, will hold a communi-

ty sing on September 20 at 6 p.m. The Crossbridge Quartet are the featured musicians.

First Church, Water Valley, men's softball team was crowned 2003 Mississippi Baptist Class AAA State Champions. The double elimination tournament was held on August 1-2 in Jackson and included a total field of 38 teams. The team defeated First Church, Vancleave, in the championship game. Team members included Ron Hart, John Walker, Steve Lindsey, Nat Dean, Lane Hart, Craig Webb, John Ingram, Jack Sartain, Bennett Crow, Jason Langdon, and Charlie Edwards. By winning to tournament, the team qualifies for a bid to participate in the Church Nationals held Labor Day weekend in Augusta, Ga.

Jesus Thang, an interdenominational outreach to the people of Houlika and Chickasaw County, will be held September 20 at the Houlika town square. Tammy Trent will be in concert. Featured attractions include inflatable extreme games, a health fair, food, and hours of entertainment featuring southern gospel, choirs, drama teams, contemporary bands, and martial arts. Admission and food are free.

Friendship, Aberdeen: Sept. 28; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner on the grounds, 12:30 a.m.; Todd Bowen, pastor; Dale Wilemon, music.

Macedonia, Brookhaven: Oct. 5; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.; a covered dish luncheon will follow; Benny Still, guest pastor; Betty Smith, music.

Shalom, Silver Creek: Sept. 21; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; lunch and fellowship will follow; all are welcome; Douglas Saxon, pastor.

Heucks Retreat, Brookhaven: Sept. 21-24; Sunday, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; 7 p.m. nightly; Bill Wright, guest speaker; Dale Heard, music.

Calvary, Petal: Sept. 21; 65th anniversary; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner will follow.

New Providence, Hazlehurst: Sept. 21; 175th anniversary; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; a covered dish will be served; special music will follow; Glenn Hopkins, former pastor, preaching; Edward L. McMillian, Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, presentation; for more information, call (601) 277-3063.

Hope, Neshoba: Sept. 28; worship, 10:30 a.m.; lunch will be served at noon; Jimmy Dale Porter, speaking; William Crenshaw, music.

Tishomingo Chapel, Alcorn: Sept. 28-Oct. 1; Sunday, 11 a.m., 5 p.m., a fellowship supper will follow; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Johnny Burns, Eastview, Huntington, Tenn., speaking; Lynn Prather, pastor.

Mize First, Mize: Oct. 5; 100th anniversary; worship, 10:30 a.m.; a covered dish luncheon will follow; Hosanna concert, 1 p.m.; time capsule ceremony, 2 p.m.; Lyn Nations, Raleigh, speaking; Jonathan Russell, pastor.

Damascus, Hazlehurst: Sept. 21; 179th anniversary; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.; lunch will be served following the service; Mike Canoy, former pastor, preaching; all are welcome.

Woodville, Woodville: Oct. 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m., supper 6 p.m., and 7 p.m.; Mon., noon and 7 p.m.; Tues., 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wed., 7 a.m., supper 6 p.m., and 7 p.m.; David Sheppard, Laurel, evangelist; Ronnie Cottingham, Lucedale, worship leader; for more information, call (601) 888-3613.

Military, Sumrall: Sept. 28; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.; lunch will be served; afternoon worship, 1 p.m.; Bob Thames, music evangelist; Mike Aultman, pastor.

Daniel Memorial, Jackson: Sept. 28-Oct. 1; Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; lunch will follow; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Steve Potts, pastor, Clayton Bath, Hal Kitchings, Dennis Smith, preaching; Billy Jack Green and Phil Dixon, Rick Greene and Soldiers Again quartet, John Langworthy, Graham Smith, music; all are welcome.



Men's Softball Team of First Church, Water Valley

## January Bible Study Preview Clinic

### I & II Timothy

#### The Church: Anticipating the Kingdom's Appearing

We are excited to be able to offer you a January Bible Study Preview Clinic in each area of the state in 2003

### September 23

Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain • Dr. Carl White  
BSU, Delta State University, Cleveland • Dr. Dean Register  
Gulf Coast Association Office, Gulfport • Dr. Les Hughes

### September 24

BSU, Northwest Mississippi Community College, Senatobia • Dr. Carl White  
Garaywa, Clinton • Dr. Dean Register  
William Carey College, Hattiesburg • Dr. Les Hughes

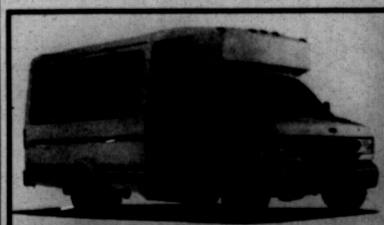
### September 25

Central Hills, Kosciusko • Dr. Carl White  
Pike Association Office, McComb • Dr. Dean Register  
Lauderdale Association Office, Meridian • Dr. Les Hughes  
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# FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

## Kingdom Priorities

Matthew 6:19-34

By Jon Daniels

Where are your priorities in life? The word "priority" is defined as "precedence, especially established by order of importance or urgency" ([www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)). Those things that we establish as important or urgent, or that we determine should take precedence over other things in our lives, will be the things that direct the course of our lives to a great degree.

The last two lessons have helped us gain a greater understanding of the need to maintain our relationship with Christ as the priority of our lives.

Whether we are being the salt of the earth; letting our light shine; giving, praying, or fasting; there is no doubt that Jesus must be the priority of our lives if we are to develop kingdom attitudes, kingdom qualities, and enjoy kingdom living. Max Lucado describes

the changes that come when we make Jesus our priority like this: "It's no casual shift of attitude. It is a demolition of the old structure and a creation of the new. The more radical the change, the greater the joy. And it's worth every effort, for this is the joy of God" (The Applause of Heaven). What incredible joy we experience in kingdom living when Jesus is our priority!

Let's answer three questions as we walk through this passage together:

### WHERE'S YOUR TREASURE? 6:19-21

I have an old mirror that has been in my family for years. It is a very large mirror with lots of intricate, fragile ornamental work around the frame; the kind of mirror that would be mounted over a mantle or in some other conspicuous place in the home.



Daniels

For the last several years, that mirror has been in a large moving box in a storage room. Why? Because I am afraid to open the box and discover the mirror's condition. I am afraid that this "treasure" has suffered the ravages of time and may be damaged or even destroyed.

Jesus makes it clear to us that if we make earthly treasures our priority in life, we will find out just how fragile those treasures are. "Moth and rust" — these are representative of all agents and processes that destroy worldly possessions.

He is not condemning earthly riches and wealth. Much good can come from those who use the wealth that God has given them to help further God's work throughout our world. Those people, and all who seek to live obedient lives, are storing up "treasures in heaven." Jesus is warning against greed and the selfish hoarding of money and material possessions. Those things simply will not last.

The word "heart" (v. 21) refers to the mind and the will, our

inner self. All of us are prone to devote our minds and wills to those things that are most important to us. Let's make sure that our treasure shows the priority of Christ in our lives.

### WHERE'S YOUR LOYALTY? 6:22-24

Double vision, or diplopia, is a condition that usually caused by "misalignment of the two eyes due to functional problems in the visual system." In other words, if your two eyes are aimed at different targets and your brain uses the two different images at the same time, double vision results. It is not normal, and is a dangerous condition (info gathered from [www.strabismus.org/double\\_vision.html](http://www.strabismus.org/double_vision.html)).

Many people suffer from spiritual double vision. Their loyalties are divided between different masters, in this case, God and money. Like physical diplopia, spiritual double vision is not normal for the Christian.

It is a dangerous condition that can bring all sorts of heartache and difficulty to our lives.

Our loyalty to Christ as our Master must be fierce and deep. Our spiritual eyes must be fixed

on Him who is the "source and perfecter of our faith" (Heb. 12:2).

### WHERE ARE YOUR PRIORITIES? 6:25-34

We began this lesson with this question, and we return to it in conclusion.

When our priorities are found in the pursuit of worldly possessions, and our minds are consumed with cares and concerns of this life, we will find ourselves constantly battling with anxiety and worry. 75% of all visits to doctors are stress related.

Jesus makes the priority of our lives abundantly clear in 6:33. How do we make the Kingdom of God our primary concern? By putting God first in our lives, filling our thoughts with His desires, taking His character as the pattern for our lives, serving and obeying Him in everything (study note on 6:33 in Life Application Study Bible). Our first priority must be to seek, find, and follow the will of God. When we do this, we will experience Kingdom living and see God's Kingdom advancing.

Daniels is pastor of Monticello Church, Monticello.

# EXPLORE THE BIBLE

## Like-Minded Believers

Philippians 2:1-11

By Laura Russell

Even though we don't look the same, belong to the same groups or resemble one another, believers do have one thing in common: the goal of building up the Kingdom of God. We should never let our differences interfere with this goal. People don't have to be just like us to be following Jesus with us. This lesson is about the Philippian church and the need for unity. Paul emphasizes that the Philippians should have Christ like attitudes to help promote their church's unity. Just as the Philippians needed to be like Christ, so we today need to develop Christ like attitudes such as humility and unselfishness in order to promote unity in our churches. We need to remember that we are all in the fight together, uniting for the same cause,

against the same enemy.

Seek unity (vv. 1-2).

If there is to be unity in the church, Christians should show kindness, compassion and sympathy to fellow believers. In this letter, Paul desired that unity among the Philippians should be perfect. Obviously, in his absence, some seeds of disunity had begun to germinate. He was reminding them of the powerful demonstration of love shown to him by the gift they had given him, and this gave him great joy. He wanted them to have this same bond of love among themselves. To be like-minded, according to the example of Jesus. Kindness, compassion and brotherly love is the law of Christ's kingdom. When we experience this kindness, compassion and love, we in turn are



Russell

kind, compassionate, sympathetic and loving to one another.

Be unselfish (vv. 3-4). With so many different backgrounds among the members, unity must have been difficult to maintain. Although there is no evidence of division in this church, Paul saw how important

it was to keep the unity safe. Paul encourages them to guard against any selfishness, prejudice or jealousy that might lead to disunity. Many people — even Christians — live only to make a good impression on others or to please themselves. This "selfish ambition" brings discord. It can ruin a church, but genuine humility can build it. Being humble means having a true perspective of ourselves. This doesn't mean we should put ourselves down because we are saved and that gives us great worth in God's Kingdom. We are to lay aside our selfishness and treat others with respect and common courtesy. When we consider others' interests more

important than our own, we are linked with Christ who is a true example of humility.

Imitate and Focus on Christ (vv. 5-11). Jesus Christ is our model of Christian behavior. He was willing to give up his rights in order to obey God and serve people. Several key characteristics of Jesus are praised in these verses: 1) He has always existed with God, 2) He is equal to God, because He is God, 3) though He is God, He became a man in order to fulfill God's plan of salvation, 4) He became a man to identify with humanity's sin, 5) He laid aside His divine rights and privileges out of love for His Father, 6) He died on a cross so that we could have eternal life, 7) God glorified Him because of His obedience and 8) God raised Him to His original position at the Father's right hand. Often people excuse selfishness, pride or evil by claiming their rights, but as we imitate and focus on Christ, believers should have a different attitude. An attitude

of humility that enables us to lay aside our rights in order to serve others. If we claim to follow Christ, we must also try to live as He showed us. We should give nothing less than our best. A 100 percent effort — all we have for Him. It wouldn't be right for Him to give everything He had only to have us put forth a weak, ambivalent, mediocre effort at following Him. It would be a cheap shot for us to take all that He has only to give Him part of what we have. His efforts demand ALL of our own efforts.

When we keep our focus on Christ we can become unified in our mission. More than being like-minded we must be single-minded in our desire to build the Kingdom of God, to spread the Good News. May we be people with loving purposes: reaching out, breaking walls, building bridges. Let us be His alleluia in a joyless, fragmented world.

Russell is member of First Church, McComb.

## Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats,

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Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

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All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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# THE VILLAGE VIEW



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## Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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## Donation made to BCV



GREATFUL DONATION - Mr. Jimmy Killough, president of Tombigbee Finance, made a very kind and generous donation of \$2000 to The Baptist Children's Village in Clinton. Receiving the check from Mr. Killough is Celeste Cade, Public Relations Associate of The Baptist Children's Village.





# Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union 125 Anniversary Kick-off Annual Missions Celebration October 3 - 4, Harrisburg Church, Tupelo

**Presiding**  
Betty Davis, president  
Mississippi Woman's  
Missionary Union

**Worship Leaders**  
Becky Howard & Diane Smith

**Theme**  
Light the Way

**Scripture**  
*Remember your leaders, who spoke the Word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. (Hebrews 13:7-8 NIV)*

## October 3

**12:45 p.m.**  
**Worship Celebration 1**  
**Remember Your Leaders**  
**with Becky Howard**

**Prelude**  
Diane Smith and Becky Howard

**Welcome**

**Dramatic presentation**  
**Remember Your Leaders**

**Special guest**  
Marjean Patterson

**Reflect on Prayer**  
Janet Hoffman

**Touch Tomorrow Today**  
David George (Kay Cassibry  
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**Message**  
Lewis and Toni Myers  
Last Frontier Missionaries

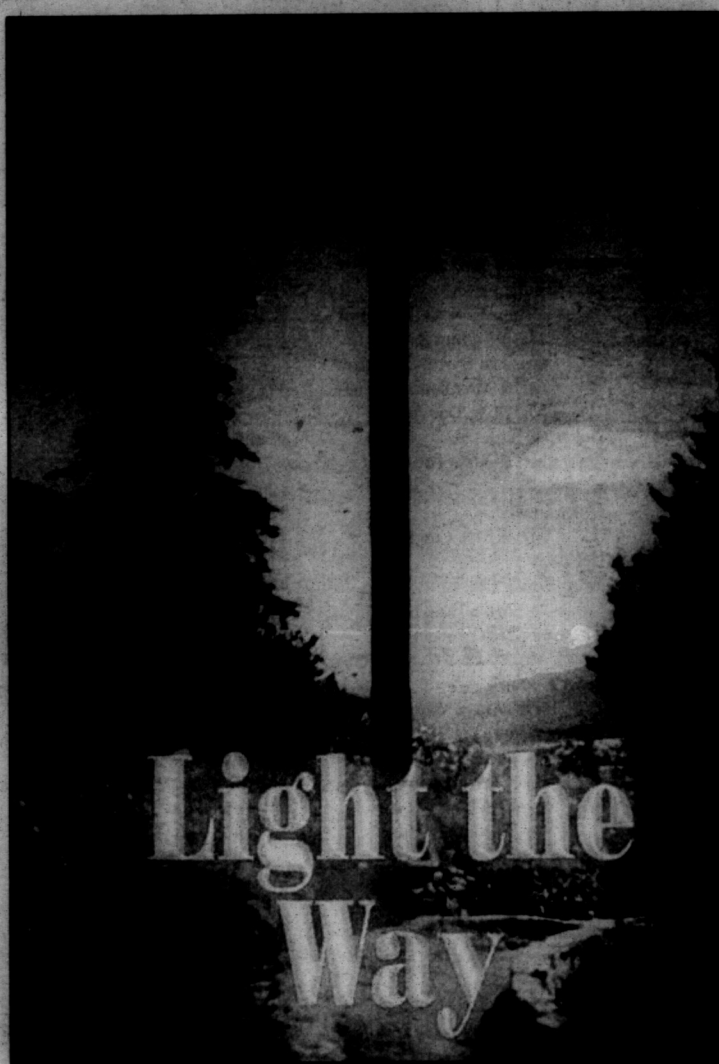
- Sessions**
- 125th Anniversary Historical Maze
  - Mingle with the Missionaries
  - Mingle with Parents of Missionaries
  - Praying for Pastors: Kevin Meador
  - Unveiled to Victory (Ministering to Muslims)

**5 p.m.**  
**Banquet for parents of Mississippi missionaries, members of the state WMU**

**Executive Board, Mississippi missionaries, mission service corps, missionary kids, associational missions directors and spouses, Acteens panelists, and program guests in the Fellowship Hall**

**6:30 p.m.**  
**Worship Celebration 2**  
**Consider the Outcome**

**Prelude**  
Harrisburg Church Sanctuary Choir  
and Orchestra



**Missionary Parents Fellowship**  
flag processional

**Dramatic presentation**  
**Consider the Outcome**

**Reflect on God's Plan**  
**Has It Changed?**  
Janet Hoffman

**Recognition of missionaries**

**Message**  
Gloria and Tom Thurman  
IMB emeritus missionaries

**9 p.m.**  
**Reception for all former Mississippi WMU staff and Mississippi WMU Board members in Church Parlor**

## October 4

**7:30 a.m.**  
**Breakfast for former WMU Executive Board members in Fellowship Hall**

- 8:45 a.m.**  
**Sessions**
- 125th Anniversary Historical Maze
  - Mingle with the Missionaries
  - Mingle with Parents of Missionaries
  - Praying for Pastor: Kevin Meador
  - Unveiled to Victory (Ministering to Muslims)

**10 a.m.**  
**Worship Celebration 3**  
**Imitate Their Faith**

**Prelude**  
Diane Smith and Becky Howard

**Dramatic Presentation**  
**Imitate their Faith**

**Do My Part**  
Janet Hoffman

**Business session**

**Message**  
Kay Bennett  
NAMB missionary

**Dramatic Prayer Closing**  
**"Passing the Torch"**

Childcare will be provided by registration only. Call Kaye Horton at (662) 842-6917. Registration for childcare closes on September 26. A reserved section for deaf interpretation will be provided for hearing impaired during the worship celebrations.

For more information, contact the Mississippi WMU Department at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651. E-mail: spruitt@mbcb.org.

## Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx  
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KFC ZW T WRZOZQ:

TDC QBAN QBQTQ

GFOWBZR BZJ JSWQ

GFOWBZR BZJ ZD

WRZOZQ TDC ZD

QOSQB.

LFBD XFSO:  
QGADQN-XFSO

Clue: A = E

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Mark 11:25

## First Church, Florence, to host Bible conference

First Church, Florence, will host an Evangelism Bible Conference September 28-October 2, 2003, sponsored by James E. Messer Ministries. Messer, evangelist at Cypress Shores Church, Mobile, AL, will conduct noon services September 29-October 2. Meals will be provided.

Phil Willis, music evangelist from Baton Rouge, La., will be directing music for the conference. The choirs of First Church, Brandon; First Church, Byram; First Church, Florence; and First Church, Jackson, will be leading music during the night services. Cross Ministry, Sons

of the Father, and Paid in Full will also be performing during the night services.

John Sullivan, executive director of the Florida Baptist Convention, will preach at the 10:30 a.m. worship service on September 28.

Evening services will begin at 6:30 p.m. Speakers include:

- September 29 — Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson, and Wayne VanHorn, pastor of First Church, Columbia.
- September 30 — Jim McNeil, drama

evangelist from St. Louis, and Bob Pitman, pastor of Kirby Woods Church, Memphis.

• October 1 — Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Church Woodstock, Ga.

• October 2 — Bill Stafford, evangelist from Chattanooga, Tn.

"My sincere heart's desire and prayer to God for our Bible Conference is to reach the lost and encourage the saved to maximize their lives for Jesus," said Dwight L. Smith, pastor of First Church, Florence.

For more information, contact First Church, Florence, Church at (601) 845-7578.